

06 NOV 1998



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Washington, D.C. 20231

John P. DeLuca  
WATSON COLE GRINDLE WATSON, P.L.L.C.  
1400 K Street, N.W., 10th Fl.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-2477

Dear Mr. DeLuca,

This is in response to your letter received 30 October 1998 inquiring about the status of U.S. application 08/973,210 filed 27 May 1997. According to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office records, a communication from applicant was received on 28 November 1997 which contained the following: 1) a preliminary amendment; 2) an information disclosure statement with a Form PTO-1449; 3) a PCT patent application containing 21 pages of specification, 25 claims, an abstract of the disclosure and a drawing; 4) a list of related applications and 5) a check for \$1,488.00. On 03 April 1998, a communication containing a declaration/power of attorney, change of firm name and address along with a check for \$130.00 were received from applicant. The application including the contents of the 28 November 1997 and the 03 April 1998 communications is currently pending and being processing by the U.S. Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US). Applicant will be notified shortly concerning the outcome of processing in the DO/EO/US.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sally Gardner-Lane".

Sally Gardner-Lane  
PCT Detailee  
PCT Legal Office

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jennifer D. Bahr".

Jennifer D. Bahr  
PCT Legal Examiner  
PCT Legal Office

SGL/JDB:sgl

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